

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SAIGON 11913 031435Z

42

ACTION EA-13

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 RSR-01 NSC-10 NSCE-00 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 IO-03 DPW-01 L-03 PM-03

AID-10 EUR-10 /080 W

----- 116451

R 030537Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4028

INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 11913

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PINT MILI VS

SUBJECT: MR 3 WEEKLY SITREP-JUNE 24-30, 1973

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SAIGON FROM BIEN HOA JUNE 30

REPEATED TO YOU

QUOTE BIEN HOA 0239

1. MILITARY ACTIVITY IN MR 3 CONTINUED TO DECLINE IN SECOND WEEK OF CEASE-FIRE II, WITH MR 3 TOC REPORTING ONLY 73 INCIDENTS IN WEEK ENDING 0800 JUNE 29, COMPARED WITH 114 IN PREVIOUS WEEK AND 155 AND 144 IN TWO WEEKS BEFORE JUNE 15 DEADLINE. MOST CLASHES REPORTED WERE LIGHT SQUAD-SIZE GROUND CONTACTS OR MINOR ATTACKS BY FIRE; THERE WERE ONLY NINE SHELLINGS OF OVER 20 ROUNDS. RVN LOST 17 RVNAF KILLED, 70 WOUNDED (MOSTLY FROM ARTILLERY OR MOR-TAR FIRE OR ACCIDENTAL MININGS), FOUR MISSING, NINE CIVILIANS WOUNDED BY MINES, TWO CIVILIANS REPORTED KIDNAPPED, AND ONE CIVILIAN ASSASSINATED. COMMUNISTS LOST 48 KIA, THREE CAPTURED, 16 INDIVIDUAL WEAPONS, AND EIGHT RALLIERS.

2. RVNAF COMMANDERS AT VARIOUS LEVELS CONCEDED TO CONGEN AND CONSULS DURING WEEK THAT IT APPEARS THAT COMMUNISTS ARE AT PRESENT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SAIGON 11913 031435Z

BASICALLY RESPECTING CEASE-FIRE. BUT THESE COMMANDERS REMAIN

CONVINCED THAT COMMUNISTS HAVE NOT ABANDONED THEIR LONG-TERM AIM OF CONQUEST OF SVN, PROBABLY BY MILITARY MEANS.

3. FOR APPARENT PURPOSE OF STRENGTHENING GVN'S HAND IN COMING TPJMC NEGOTIATIONS ON ZONES OF CONTROL AND CORRIDORS, AS WELL AS TO IMPROVE SECURITY GENERALLY, GVN THIS WEEK CONDUCTED SEVERAL OPERATIONS IN AREAS WHICH THEY WOULD CONTENTEND THEY ALREADY CONTROL, BUT WHICH PRG MAY ALSO CLAIM AND WHICH INDEPENDENT OBSERVERS WOULD CHARACTERIZE AS CONTESTED. TWO RANGER BATTALIONS ATTEMPTED TO CLEAR NATIONAL HIGHWAY 14 BETWEEN DONG XOAI AND JUNCTION WITH ROUTE 311 IN PHUOC LONG PROVINCE. ELEMENTS OF 18TH DIVISION AND LONG KHANH AND PHUOC TUY RF PREPARED TO SWEEP INTERPROVINCIAL ROUTE 2 NEAR BORDER OF TWO PROVINCES. SHARP FIGHTING IN HIEU THIEN DISTRICT, TAY NINH, ON AND AFTER JUNE 22 PRODUCED PRG AND GVN COUNTERCHARGES OF CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS. THERE WAS ALSO SOME FIGHTING, NOT FULLY REPORTED IN MR 3 TOC LOG, IN TRANG BANG DISTRICT OF HAU NGHIA, AND DUC HOA DISTRICT CHIEF CAPTURED LARGE STORES OF COMMUNIST ARMAMENTS. GIA DINH PROVINCE CHIEF HAD HIS RF AND A RANGER BATTALION "CLEARING WASTE-LAND TO OPEN AREAS FOR FARMING" IN RELATIVELY INSECURE AREAS ALONG TRADITIONAL COMMUNIST INFILTRATION ROUTES, DISCOVERING COMMUNIST BUNKERS AND CACHES AND TRIGGERING SOME MINES.

4. ICCS V CANDELS LURCHED UNSTEADILY TOWARD COMPLETION OF THEIR DUTIES, NOW SCHEDULED FOR JULY 23. CANDEL FLOORED POLDEL WITH ONE PUNCH IN LATE NIGHT BIEN HOA CLUB BARROOM PUNCHUP. HUNGDEL LTC MENRATH COMPLAINED THAT CANDELS HAD KEPT HIM AWAKE JUNE 25-26 WITH ALL-NIGHT REVELRY AT BIEN HOA CLUB. GUNG-HO CANDEL V CHIEF COL. MORROW GOT INTO TROUGLE BRIEFLY WITH HIS SUPERIORS IN SAIGON AND OTTAWA OVER CBS SHOWING OF CBS TAPING OF HIS UNILATERAL INTERVIEW OF NVA POW INFILTRATOR. EVEN MORE GUNG-HO XUAN LOC CANDEL CHIEF CPT PATTEN, WHO WITH HIS DEPUTY CPT. THOMPSON HAD APPARENTLY SET UP A MEETING WITH LOCAL PRG IN RUBBER PLANTATION OUTSIDE XUAN LOC AFTERNOON JUNE 28, DID NOT RETURN TO XUAN LOC THAT EVENING, AND THE TWO ARE STILL BEING HELD BY PRG WHILE NEGOTIATIONS FOR THEIR RELEASE PROCEED AT SAIGON LEVEL.

5. ICCS V FORWARDED 2-2 SPLIT VIEWS TO SAIGON JUNE 25 ON ALLEGED PRG FIRING ON ICCS HELICOPTER OVER NATIONAL HIGHWAY 13 ON ROAD TO AN LOC JUNE 16. BUT REGULAR ICCS HELICOPTER FLIGHTS EVERY OTHER DAY BETWEEN BIEN HOA AND AN LOC BEGAN JUNE 25, PRESUMABLY WITH CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SAIGON 11913 031435Z

BETTER PRG SECURITY GUARANTEES. IN BINH TUY JUNE 26, AN ICCS REGION IV HELICOPTER WAS FIRED ON WHILE ON THE GROUND DURING AN INVESTIGATION, ALTHOUGH THE ROUNDS DID NOT LAND CLOSE ENOUGH TO CAUSE CASUALTIES OR DAMAGEO. SIGNED WALKINSHAW UNQUOTE WHITEHOUSE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNNNMAFVVZCZ

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 JUL 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SAIGON11913
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS WHITEHOUSE
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: SAIGON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730756/aaaabpdq.tel
Line Count: 113
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06-Dec-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <28-Dec-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MR 3 WEEKLY SITREP-JUNE 24-30, 1973 FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SAIGON FROM BIEN HOA JUNE 30
TAGS: PINS, PINT, MILI, VS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005